डालर का लगाया है जबकि वर्ष 1992-93 के लिये यह अनुमानित घाटा 4.921 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर का रहा था । इस प्रकार, इससे पता लगता है कि स्थिति में काफी सुधार हुआ है ।

(घ) व्यापार तो अर्थव्यवस्था के अन्दरूनी और बाहर दोनों कारकों पर निर्भर होता है । विश्व व्यापार में फिर से संभावित मजबूती के आधार पर और सरकार को निर्यात के लिये लाभकारी नीतियों के आधार पर ऐसी आशा है कि आगामी महीनों में हमारे निर्यात में वृद्धि होगी ।

Policies on liberalisation not yielding export growth

824. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's policies of liberalisation and export growth have not worked during the first quarter of the current financial year, if the results of the export and import growth is any sign;

(b) if so, what are the details of the growth export and import during the first quarter of the current financial year and how does it compare with that in the last year during the same period; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to unsatisfied growth on trade front?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of exports and imports during April-May, 1994 the latest period for which such aggregate trade statistics are available, alongwith April-May, 1993, are given below:

	April—May' 1994		April—May' 1993	
	Rs. crores	US$ million	Rs. crores	US $ million
Exports	11898	3793	10832	3459
	*(9.8%)	(9.7%)	(41.4%)	(29.7%)
Imports	12181	3883	10853	3465
	(12.2%)	(12.1%)	(4.6%)	(—4.1%)

*Figures in brackets indicate percentage increases/decreases over the corresponding periods of previous years.

The apprehension that the liberalisation process would drastically increase imports, does not appear to be justified. Due to seasonality, there is general downfall in exports in the months of first quarter of the year. Export growth during April|May, 1994 of 9.7 per cent, however, compared to the high base of 1993-94, is still higher than the long-term trend rate of export growth of 7 to 8 percent. Export promotion is an ongoing exercise; it is a collaborative effort between the Centre and the State and steps are taken to provide an export policy environment in consultation with trade and industry.

STC Negotiating for supply of sugar

825. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that STC has been negotiating with non-cartel party for the supply of sugar at a lesser rate than charged by the international sugar cartel;

(b) if so, details thereof with regard to the quantity of sugar to be purchased, the rate of at which sugar will be purchased, and the extent to which the rate is less than the rate charged in the international sugar cartel; and

(c) the extent to which the domestic prices of sugar are likely to come down as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) STC is not aware of the existence of any international sugar cartel or the members thereof. However, in order to elicit the most competitive offers from the international market while simultaneously ensuring security and quality of supply, STC had entertained offers for supply of sugar both from members and non-members of the Refined Sugar Association (RSA), London subject to fulfilment/acceptance of certain additioanl conditions by the latter. Apart from order for supply of 4.56 lac tonnes of sugar placed on suppliers who are members of RSA at C & F prices in the range of US $ 378.50 to US$404.00 PMT for arrival between July-Nov. depending on factors like source of supply shipment date, date of contracting STC have also placed an order on 25.7.94 on one non-RSA supplier, M|s. Falcon of Dubai, for supply of 12,500 tonnes of sugar at a cost of US $ 350 PMT, C&F for August shipment.

(c) As a result of the arrival of imported sugar and adequate release of indigenous sugar, the initial rise in sugar price has now been checked and sugar prices have shown a declining trend from the second fortnight of May onwards.

Import of edible oils

826. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the steadily rising prices of Edible Oils in the country and if so, what is the quantity and nomenclature of Edible Oils imported in 1993 and so far in 1994 together with the names of the countries and the price per tonne.

(b) what is the estimated quantity of Edible Oil which has been contracted for import for the rest of the year and the price thereof; and

(c) In what manner the imported oil has been and is likely to bt distributed and what steps have been taken to ensure that the commodity reaches the distant regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

विश्व व्यापार में भारत की भागीदारी

827. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :**
श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला:

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्व व्यापार में भारत की भागीदारी क्रमश: घट रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान विश्व व्यापार में भारत की भागीदारी कितनी थी ; और